

Paradigm shifts: Changing epistemology



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What is “Epistemology”

The branch of philosophy that investigates the nature, limits, criteria, or validity of human knowledge; also, a particular theory of cognition.

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth – There is a TRUTH that exists and it can be "known"
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing – Careful observation can and will reveal the truth
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial – It's people against nature
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers – Observation is separate from the observed
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction – Dissection of larger parts will get closer to the truth
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling - Labeling of parts is a benign event and has no consequences
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented - identify causes
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented - causes lie in past
- Isolation
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation - Individuals operate independent of environment
- Non-relational
- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation

- Non-relational - Causes are inside of the individual

- Experts

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Traditional Epistemology

- Truth
- Observing
- Adversarial
- Observers
- Reduction
- Labeling
- Problem-oriented
- Past-oriented
- Isolation
- Non-relational

- Experts - Experts "give" treatment

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
- Participating
- Cooperative
- Involving
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative – We Co-create what is considered true

- Participating
- Cooperative
- Involving
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative

- Participating - Participation is all that is possible - observation is participation

- Cooperative
- Involving
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
- Participating

- Cooperative – A cooperative position is taken with and by nature

- Involving
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
- Participating
- Cooperative
- Involving - Observers are in the system they observe
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
- Participating
- Cooperative
- Involving
- Punctuating - Punctuation or separation of experience is somewhat arbitrary
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
- Participating
- Cooperative
- Involving
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying - Labels are limited by the labeler's experience and choices
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
- Participating
- Cooperative
- Involving
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented - Solving the task is the focus
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
- Participating
- Cooperative
- Involving
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented – purpose lies in present and immediate future
- Eco-systemic
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
- Participating
- Cooperative
- Involving
- Punctuating
- Pattern identifying
- Goal-oriented
- Future-oriented
- Eco-systemic - Individuals and environments form an eco-system
- Circularity
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
 - Participating
 - Cooperative
 - Involving
 - Punctuating
 - Pattern identifying
 - Goal-oriented
 - Future-oriented
 - Eco-systemic
- **Circularity** - Problems are reciprocally and cyclically between and with parts of the system
- Context creating

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Emergent Epistemology

- Co-creative
 - Participating
 - Cooperative
 - Involving
 - Punctuating
 - Pattern identifying
 - Goal-oriented
 - Future-oriented
 - Eco-systemic
 - Circularity
- Context creating – “Change agents” help create a context for problem solving

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